



The HAL Hotline

Department of History, Arts and Libraries • Summer 2003 • Volume II • Issue II

HAL, Travel Michigan and MAPB Announce Michigan Maritime Heritage Destination

Seeking to add a new dimension to Michigan's already robust slate of tourism attractions, the Department of History, Arts and Libraries (HAL) joined Travel Michigan and the Michigan Association of Public Broadcasters to announce an ambitious plan to market the thousands of attractions linked to Great Lakes maritime recreation and history. HAL Director Dr. William Anderson led the announcement last month in Ludington at the 50th-anniversary celebration of the *S.S. Badger* car ferry.

This collaborative effort – tagged the Michigan Maritime Heritage Destination – seeks to heighten the visibility and marketability of Michigan's lighthouses, museums, historic ships, underwater preserves and numerous other maritime-themed resources. The project is on course for a May 2004 launch.

Dr. Anderson said the goal of the Michigan Maritime Heritage Destination is to create a one-of-a-kind visitor experience with national appeal that firmly establishes maritime heritage/cultural tourism as part of Michigan's national identity.

Clearly, HAL is on to something! Commenting on Michigan's maritime announcement, a recent *Duluth NewsTribune* editorial stated, "To hold our own in a competitive marketplace and reach the next level in attracting visitors, the larger Northeastern Minnesota/Northwestern Wisconsin region can – and should – be creating

specialized packages to reach particular tourism audiences. ... Michigan, for example, has launched a national tourism campaign based on its maritime history. Our region ... could and should do the same."

"I define cultural tourism as providing the visitor with an engaging and memorable experience based on the history, character, traditions and culture of a given place," said Dr. Anderson. "Positioning Michigan among the

According to Dr. Anderson, this destination model will engage communities throughout Michigan that have a maritime heritage interest, providing them the opportunity to reach new audiences through critical mass and expanded, unified marketing resources. The Michigan Association of Public Broadcasters plays a key role in this effort, with the use of previously produced programming and the development of new programs that honor maritime heritage and other cultural tourism in the state.

"We are very pleased to be part of this new partnership with the Department of History, Arts and Libraries and Travel Michigan," said Ed Grant, president of the Michigan Association of Public Broadcasters. "The wealth of maritime heritage resources in Michigan offers such a tremendous marketing opportunity that

we anticipate, by this time next year, public television viewers across the state will be able to tune in to their favorite stations and discover Michigan's maritime treasures!"

Dr. Anderson stressed that the Michigan Maritime Heritage Destination is a work in progress and, more importantly, a call to action for the state's destination marketing organizations. "We will be seeking the critical input of the state's tourism leaders to organize regional clusters; discover and use the maritime stories that will animate these themes; package the visitor experience; and implement our marketing plan."



S.S. Badger

national leaders in cultural tourism will require the creation and effective promotion of destination attractions with broad appeal."

"The Michigan Maritime Heritage Destination is an exciting new way to promote Michigan's rich maritime history," said George Zimmermann, vice president of Travel Michigan. "To maximize its impact, we at Travel Michigan will be promoting this initiative via our Web site, michigan.org, through advertising, public relations, publications and the Michigan Welcome Centers."

What's Going On at HA

Hometown Hoops Exhibit

Michigan Historical Museum

Now through October 12

This special exhibit looks at what high-school basketball has meant to those who play, coach or cheer and what a team can mean to its community.

Learning More @ the Library of Michigan:

AncestryPlus

Wednesday, July 2 at 3 p.m.

Lake Erie Training Center, first floor, Library of Michigan

Tips for how to best search the thousands of databases and millions of names included on AncestryPlus, a large online genealogy resource. To register, call (517) 373-1300.

A Star Spangled Fourth

Friday, July 4 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Fort Mackinac, Mackinac Island

Independence Day at historic Fort Mackinac features an 1880s 38-gun salute, music and dancing. An old-time picnic will also be served on the fort's parade ground at 7 p.m.

Digging History

Saturday, July 5 at 7 p.m.

Colonial Michilimackinac, Mackinaw City

Try your hand screening for artifacts, tour historic Colonial Michilimackinac – site of the nation's longest ongoing archaeological dig – and meet the real archaeologists. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$6 for youth (6-17), \$30 for families and free to Mackinac Associates Friend level and above.

Eastern Woodlands Indian Art Show

Friday, July 11 – Sunday, July 13

Visitor's Center, Colonial Michilimackinac, Mackinaw City

A frontier art show featuring works by Robert Griffing, including framed and matted prints, videos, stationery and note cards depicting 18th-century Native American and military heritage. Admission is included with Colonial Michilimackinac tickets.

Learning More @ the Library of Michigan:

Michigan Fiction

Saturday, July 12 at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday, July 16 at 3 p.m.

Lake Huron Room, second floor, Library of Michigan

This session will cover Michigan authors and their works, as well as how to find fiction on the Library of Michigan's online catalog. To register, call (517) 373-1300.

World War II Encampment - Shield of Steel: The Arsenal of Democracy

Saturday, July 12 and Sunday, July 13 from noon to 4 p.m.

Michigan Iron Industry Museum, Negaunee
Michigan's three iron ranges helped produce

iron ore for the weapons, tanks and battleships that earned Michigan's reputation as the "Arsenal of Democracy." Throughout the weekend, visitors will see a World War II encampment, equipment, small arms demonstrations, costumed interpreters, guest speakers, Big Band music and dance demonstrations. Admission is free.

Heritage Baseball Tournament and Picnic

Saturday, July 19 at 6 p.m.

Fort Mackinac, Mackinac Island

Part of the Summer of Sports 2003. The evening starts with a pre-game picnic at Fort Mackinac, then the action moves to the Scout Barracks ball field for an old-fashioned, barehanded game of "base ball" with authentic uniforms and lots of crowd interaction. Call (231) 436-4100 for pricing and event details.

Campeau Company Encampment

Saturday, July 19 and Sunday, July 20 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Colonial Michilimackinac, Mackinaw City

Costumed 18th-century re-enactors join the fort's British troops. Meet dozens of extra soldiers, see demonstrations and fashion shows, and learn about camp life.

Blessing of the Fleet

Sunday, July 20 at noon

Fayette Historic Townsite, Fayette Historic State Park, Garden

The 55th annual Blessing of the Fleet, sponsored by the Garden Area Catholic Churches and the Escanaba Knights of Columbus, commemorates sailors who have lost their lives on the Great Lakes with a special remembrance ceremony. Other activities include music, a food tent and pie social. For more information, call Fayette Historic State Park at (906) 644-2603.

Learning More @ the Library of Michigan:

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

Saturday, July 26 at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday, July 30 at 3 p.m.

Lake Huron conference room, second floor, Library of Michigan

This session will explore the Library's collection of Sanborn fire insurance maps and how they can be used as historical resources in tracking urban ancestors. To register, call (517) 373-1300.

Abrams Genealogy Series: Using Vital Records for Genealogical Research

Saturday, August 2 at 9:30 a.m.

Forum, first floor, Library of Michigan

Part of a series focusing on the resources available in the Library of Michigan's Abrams Foundation Historical Collection, this session provides an overview of the Michigan vital records and various other vital records resources found at the Library of Michigan. Cost is \$10.

L, July - August

Benjamin Blacksmith Convention

Saturday, August 2 and Sunday, August 3 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Market Street and Fort Mackinac, Mackinac Island

Watch blacksmiths create works of iron as more than a dozen regional blacksmiths use traditional tools and techniques to complete a Mackinac State Historic Parks project.

Compagnie Franche de la Marine de Michilimackinac Encampment

Saturday, August 2 and Sunday, August 3 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Colonial Michilimackinac, Mackinaw City
Costumed 18th-century re-enactors join the fort's British troops. Meet dozens of extra soldiers, see demonstrations and fashion shows, and learn about camp life.

Horses Through History on Mackinac Island Dinner and Presentation and Mackinac Associates Annual Meeting

Friday, August 8 at 6 p.m.

Fort Mackinac, Mackinac Island

Part of the Summer of Sports 2003. Enjoy dinner at the Fort Mackinac Tea Room, then listen as local equine expert Candace Dunnigan reveals how Mackinac Island and horses have been inextricably entwined over time. Mackinac Associates Annual Meeting follows at 7 p.m.

Call (231) 436-4100 for prices.

Learning More @ the Library of Michigan: Michigan Newspaper Resources

Saturday, August 9 at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday, August 13 at 3 p.m.

Lake Huron Room, second floor, Library of Michigan

This session will cover the Michigan newspapers available at the Library of Michigan and how to find them on the library's online catalog, as well as and how to find obituaries, death notices, and marriage and birth announcements in the newspapers. To register, call (517) 373-1300.

Michigan Book Club

Thursday, August 14 at noon

Lake Huron Room, second floor, Library of Michigan

The Library of Michigan hosts a series of book discussions focusing on books from the library's Michigan collection. The featured title for August is *Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis. Attendees are invited to bring a lunch, and all participants are asked to pre-register. For more information or to register, contact Leelyn Johnson at (517) 373-1364 or ljohnson@michigan.gov.

Golf History Night at Fort Mackinac

Friday, August 15 at 7 p.m.

Fort Mackinac, Mackinac Island

Where did the game of golf originate? How did early equipment stack up against today's graphite shafts and perimeter weighted irons? *Golfweek* editor and author Brad Klein reveals all in an entertaining and informative presentation, part of the Summer of Sports 2003. The event also features a Scottish-themed dinner and putting contest. Call (231) 436-4100 for prices.

Learning More @ the Library of Michigan: Southern Plantation Records

Saturday, August 23 at 9:30 a.m. and

Wednesday, August 27 at 3 p.m.

Lake Huron Room, second floor, Library of Michigan

This session will discuss facsimiles of original documents from various southern plantations, including diaries and account books, and how they can be incorporated into antebellum genealogy research. To register, call (517) 373-1300.



Governor Jennifer Granholm reads to children in the 1890s one-room school exhibit of the Michigan Historical Museum during her Michigan tourism tour this June. The Michigan Historical Museum is one of Michigan's leading cultural and educational institutions, serving nearly 70,000 Michigan school children each year.



All across Michigan museums, theaters, zoos, arts agencies, nature centers and libraries are helping children of all ages expand their horizons, develop their talents and learn in new, exciting ways. Until last month, the programs available statewide were not collected in one, comprehensive resource.

With the launch of the Michigan Creative After School Experiences (MICASE) on-line database, the Department of History, Arts and Libraries helps connect those seeking creative out-of-school-hours educational experiences with the cultural organizations that provide them.

MICASE – www.micase.org — is a work in progress. Eligible program providers are encouraged to enter their information at the Web site.

Thunder Bay's Lusardi is Knee-Deep in Underwater Work

In November 2002, Wayne Lusardi made Michigan history by becoming the State of Michigan's first maritime archaeologist, stationed at Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve located just off Alpena's coast. Lusardi works for the Office of the State Archaeologist, Michigan Historical Center, which is part of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries (HAL). Thunder Bay is jointly managed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the State of Michigan.

As sanctuary archaeologist, Lusardi is responsible for the research, documentation, preservation and management of as many as 100 shipwrecks located in Thunder Bay. He is involved in all aspects of fieldwork, research, education and outreach and, as a state employee, is also responsible for submerged cultural resources throughout Michigan.

"I first dove on Michigan shipwrecks 20 years ago and am very excited to be back on the Great Lakes," said Lusardi. "The preservation of historic wrecks is amazing here! I look forward to working with state and NOAA staff, local divers and community educators to create an environment that lets people nationwide experience the hands-on thrill of exploring this incredible maritime preserve. Thunder Bay is truly a national treasure."

Lusardi brings to the job an extensive background in underwater and terrestrial archaeology, artifact conservation and material culture studies. Before arriving at Thunder Bay, he was employed as an archaeological conservator for the Mariners' Museum in Newport News, Va., leading the museum's excavation of the *USS Monitor's* turret after its recovery in August 2002. Prior to that, Lusardi spent four years on the Blackbeard shipwreck project in North Carolina, and worked as an archaeologist for Tidewater Atlantic Research, Texas A&M University, and the Illinois State Museum.

Thunder Bay staff members are busy during this summer field season, which includes work on the wrecks *Cornelia B. Windiate*, Barge No. 1, and *Red Bottom*. Preparations are also under way for the Third Annual Thunder Bay Maritime Festival (August 23-24), and visitor-center exhibits will be designed and installed in the Alpena Federal Building by September.

"The maritime festival is a great event and we invite everyone to join us in Alpena for it and many other visitor-friendly attractions in the future," said Lusardi.

Michigan Freedom Trail Commission Adopts First Strategic Plan

The Michigan Freedom Trail Commission recently adopted its first strategic plan, which will help the commission carry out its mission to preserve, protect and promote the legacy of the Freedom Trail in Michigan, making the history of the Underground Railroad a vital part of our state's civic discourse, its educational resources and its cultural tourism product.

"The history of freedom seekers who escaped slavery and the Michiganders who helped them find refuge and freedom is one of the most powerful, inspiring stories in our heritage," said Commission Chairperson Mary Edmond. "We on the commission believe this plan will help us discover more of that history, preserve it, and share it with people throughout the world."

The strategic plan has five goals:

Goal 1: Supportive Infrastructure

To nurture and build the capacity of the organizations, institutions and individuals that are the stewards of the Underground Railroad story — the "modern day" conductors.

Goal 2: Documentation and Research

To increase accurate, authentic knowledge and interpretation of the Underground Railroad in Michigan.

Goal 3: Identification and Preservation

To ensure that Michigan's Underground Railroad sites persist because they are identified, preserved and maintained.

Goal 4: Education

To make the Underground Railroad recognized as a subject of study in its own right, not just an appendage of the Civil War

Goal 5: Cultural And Heritage Tourism and Public Awareness

To give authentic Michigan Underground Railroad history a level of public and heritage tourism recognition equal to that of the Great Lakes, the automobile and lighthouses.

The full plan can be found on the Web at www.michigan.gov/hal by clicking on Our Agencies, then Boards, Committees and Commissions, and then on Special.

A Summer of Sports at Museums Across Michigan

Michigan sports fans of all ages have something to cheer about this summer! During this "Summer of Sports," the seven largest public history museums in the state are collaborating to explore a common theme - Michigan's sports legacy. Over the course of the summer, each museum is featuring a different exhibit highlighting the contribution of Michigan sports to our history, culture, heritage and identity.

Two of the seven participants - the Michigan Historical Museum and Mackinac State Historic Parks - are part of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries (HAL). The project was made possible with the support of another HAL agency, the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.

Summer of Sports exhibits include:

"Baseball - America's Pastime" at Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village

"Guts, Games and Glory: Detroit's Sporting Legacy" at Detroit Historical Museums

"Hometown Hoops: High School Basketball in Michigan" at the Michigan Historical Museum

"Summer's Playground: Recreational Sports at Mackinac, 1880-1920" at Mackinac State Historic Parks

"Leagues of Their Own" at the Public Museum of Grand Rapids

"Football: The Exhibit" at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum

"Sportsman's Paradise: Michigan Hunting and Fishing" at the Sloan Museum in Flint

For more information, visit
www.summerofsports.com.

Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs Receives National Recognition

The Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) recently received national recognition from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for its grant application and review process. MCACA applies annually for federal funding through the NEA's Partnership Program. Its application and overall process were reviewed and praised by some of the nation's leading arts administrators.

NEA panelists applauded the Council for reaching out to all population groups in the state and for

achieving a balance between major organizations and rural groups. According to the NEA approval letter, panelists thought "it was remarkable that such a small staff could accomplish so much" and thought this reflected the "strategic use of resources and the effective partnerships the Council has developed to serve the state."

"Since MCACA's creation in 1991, Michigan has emerged as a national leader among the states in not only its support of arts and culture, but as an innovator in developing a fair and equitable grants process," said Dr. William Anderson, director of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries.

"The arts quench our souls' thirst for beauty," said Governor Jennifer M. Granholm. "How lucky we are in Michigan to have a nationally recognized infrastructure in place to keep every access route to federal funding open to our arts community. The creativity and inclusion that MCACA's grant review and application process is fostering will help ensure that the arts continue to thrive in Michigan, even in the face of a tight budget."

Porter Appointed Acting Director by Mackinac Island State Park Commission



The Mackinac Island State Park Commission (MISPC) appointed Chief Curator Phil Porter as acting director at its March 19, 2003 meeting. Porter is a familiar face to many on Mackinac - he spent summers on Mackinac Island as a youth growing up in Grosse Pointe Woods and has worked for MSHP for 35 years, starting as an historic interpreter at Fort Mackinac.

Porter takes over the responsibilities of Carl R. Nold, MSHP director from 1992 to 2003, who assumed a new position as president of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (SPNEA) on May 1, 2003.

Porter earned his undergraduate degree from Kenyon College and a graduate degree in History Museum Studies from the State University of New York in Cooperstown. He is the author of a variety of books published by MSHP, including *View from the Veranda, Mackinac: An Island Famous in These Regions* and *Fudge: Mackinac's Sweet Souvenir*. MSHP just published his latest work, *A Desirable Station, Soldier Life at Fort Mackinac, 1867-1895*, this June.

"I look forward to working closely with Deputy Director Dr. David Armour and to the challenge of leading MSHP through the upcoming season," said Porter.

M i c h i g a n

The Tradition Continues

Michigan Week 2003 was a great celebration of Michigan's traditions and rich heritage, with many regions



of the state taking part and many new partnerships being forged for future Michigan Week programs. This year's theme, "Great Lakes, Great Traditions," was carried throughout the week, with special help from celebrity co-chairs *Tony the Tiger™* and *Ernie Keebler™*.

To help spread the message about Michigan Week, Governor Jennifer Granholm recorded TV and radio public-service announcements; Lt. Governor John Cherry presided at the Capitol kickoff; and AAA Michigan covered design and printing costs for 20,000 Michigan Week posters, many of which were sent to elementary schools statewide!

Since taking responsibility for coordinating Michigan Week last year, the Department of History, Arts and Libraries has focused heavily on ways to engage more people at the local level. The Michigan Week Web site has served as a valuable tool by offering people a place to find practically all the necessary resources for developing Michigan Week celebrations for their own areas.

Said HAL Director Dr. William Anderson, "I am grateful to the many teachers, school children, businesses, legislators and citizens who took Michigan Week to heart this year. We have so many wonderful traditions and unique resources to celebrate, Michigan Week gives us a remarkable opportunity to do so!"

Although Michigan Week 2003 just wrapped up, planning for 2004 will be under way very soon. Check www.michigan.gov/hal often for theme and date announcements.

Partners Make It Possible This Year

Making sure the Michigan Week message reached as many residents as possible was no small task; we were fortunate this year to have partnered with some extremely generous and talented individuals who gave freely of their time and resources. These partners include:

AAA Michigan – Dearborn

Design, production and printing costs for 20,000 Michigan Week posters were donated by AAA Michigan. Learn more about AAA at www.autoclubgroup.com/michigan.

Community Papers of Michigan – Alma

CPM distributed Michigan Week news, event listings and press materials to its network of nearly 100 weekly shoppers and community newspapers. Executive Director Terry Fitzwater can be reached at tjfmiracing@cablespeed.com.

Michigan Association of Broadcasters – Lansing

MAB posted Governor Granholm's PSAs on its Web site for free download to its statewide membership. MAB President and CEO Karole White can be reached at karolewhite@michmab.com. Learn more about MAB at www.michmab.com.

PR Newswire – Southfield

PR Newswire provided free distribution of Michigan Week news releases on its Michigan newswire. Bureau Manager Trevor Loe can be reached at trevor_loe@prnewswire.com. Learn more about PR Newswire at www.prnewswire.com.

Marshall Rotary Club – Marshall

This Rotary club again sponsored the annual Michigan Week volunteer/community awards luncheon at Schuler's restaurant in downtown Marshall. Rotary member Paul Davis can be reached at paul@marshall-realty.com.

Kellogg Company – Battle Creek

Kellogg Company graciously donated the time and energy of two beloved characters, this year's Michigan Week celebrity co-chairs *Tony the Tiger™* and *Ernie Keebler™*. Learn more about Kellogg at www.kelloggs.com.

MSU Extension – Children, Youth and Family Program – East Lansing

The 4-H Youth Development office partnered with Michigan Week to present a Youth Photo Contest reaching every county in the state. Learn more about this organization at www.msue.msu.edu/cyf/index.html.

Michigan Humanities Council/Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs – Lansing

These two agencies set aside funding to support a variety of artists' performances during Michigan Week. Visit the Michigan Humanities Council at www.michiganhumanities.org and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs at www.michigan.gov/hal.

Detroit Newspapers in Education – Detroit

Detroit Newspapers in Education sponsored the "Faces of Michigan" poster contest for 9th- to 12th-graders. Visit Detroit Newspapers in Education at <http://nieonline.com/detroit/index.hbs>.

Lansing Parade Committee – Lansing

This annual event had even greater Michigan Week flavor this year, with some of the parade participants taking part in post-parade events at the Michigan Library and Historical Center.

Michigan Citizens Rewarded for Volunteer Spirit and Community Building

Demonstrating that volunteerism and good will are alive and well in the Great Lakes State, 20 individuals and organizations were recognized with Michigan Week awards this year at the annual luncheon at Schuler's restaurant in downtown Marshall. According to HAL Director Dr. William Anderson, this year's winners clearly demonstrate "how one life touches another, how one good deed can spark another." A good number of this year's winners were nominated by legislators who recognized the meaningful works done by their constituents.

The Michigan Week volunteer leadership award was created to salute individuals who, through exceptional volunteer efforts, enhance the lives of Michigan citizens. This year's winners are:

Eleanor Bates of Warren
Emly Horne of Lansing
Jimmy King of Burton
Quan Lateef of Kalamazoo
Margaret Livensparger of Holt
Rishi Moudgil of Ann Arbor
Martin and Lucy Overhiser of Marshall
John Walter Payne III of Detroit
Esther Pung of Westphalia
Jim Rebbeck of Saline
Don Ryan of Kalamazoo
Eleanor Smith of Lansing
Kathy Vogt of Clinton Township
Brian Werschem of Fruitport

The Michigan Week community achievement award honors the collective efforts of local citizens' groups on projects or programs that improve life in their communities. This year's winners are:

Brighton Area Historical Society
Clark Lake Community Center Committee
Grand Ledge Army Aviation Support Facility
Hillsdale County Web Site
Marshall Area in Focus: 2007
Southern Michigan Railroad Society, Inc.

Three individuals were also honored with the Governor John B. Swainson Award, given to public servants for outstanding contributions to preserving Michigan history above and beyond their job duties. This year's recipients, recognized during the Michigan Week kickoff at the State Capitol on May 14, are:

Officer Tony Angelosanto of Plymouth
Vicki Barnard of Sanford
Donald Riel of DeWitt

Photo and Poster Contests Engage Students Statewide

A key goal and a key audience for Michigan Week came together beautifully this year through the creation of two brand-new contests that are sure to be traditions for years to come! With the help of the MSU Extension – Children, Youth and Family Program and Detroit Newspapers in Education, the spirit of Michigan Week reached more students in more counties.

The Youth Photo Contest asked youths age 9-19 to submit a photo of their favorite historic sites or centennial barns. Although many excellent photos were received, the field was narrowed to 12 outstanding interpretations. The winners – whose work can be viewed at the Michigan Week Web site at www.michigan.gov/hal — hail from Alto, Bay City, Beaver Island, Buchanan, Cassopolis, Clare, Flint, Iron River, Lansing, Ludington, Newaygo and Sanford.

Citing the opinion that "Michigan is rich in ethnic and racial diversity with original Native Americans who lived in and traveled the woods and waterways of early Michigan to more recent immigrants from Europe, Africa, Asia, the Middle East and other lands," Detroit Newspapers in Education sponsored the "Faces of Michigan" poster contest for 9th- to 12th-graders. The winning entries – also available for viewing at the Michigan Week Web site – came from students in Detroit and Romulus.



*Clockwise from top:
Author signing at the Library
of Michigan; Ernie the Keebler
Elf™ and Tony the Tiger™; The Michigan Parade; Michigan Week
kickoff event held at the Capitol on May 14.*

Our Mission

The Mission of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries is to enrich the quality of life for Michigan residents by providing access to information, preserving and promoting Michigan's heritage, and fostering cultural creativity. The department includes the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, the Michigan Film Office, the Michigan Historical Center and the Library of Michigan.

Handy HAL contacts

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Michigan Historical Center Foundation

General Information: (517) 373-2565

Michigan Historical Museum

Museum Hotline: (517) 373-3559
Group tour reservations: (517) 373-2353

Office of the State Archaeologist

General Information: (517) 373-6358

State Archives of Michigan

General Information: (517) 373-1408
Reference Desk: (517) 373-1414

Michigan History Magazine:

General Information: (517) 373-3703
Subscription Information
& Orders: (800) 366-3703

State Historic Preservation Office

General Information: (517) 373-1630
Michigan Historic Markers: (517) 335-2725
National Register of
Historic Places: (517) 335-2719

Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs

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Library of Michigan Circulation

Public Services Circulation: (517) 373-1360

Library of Michigan Reference:

Public Services Reference: (517) 373-1300
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SBPH Lobby: (517) 373-5614
Michigan only (800) 726-7323
TDD Number:
Public Services Reference,
Services for the Blind & Physically
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Library of Michigan State Law Library

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Students Experience Mackinac History Hands-On With New Education Program

Students got to live the lives of Fort Mackinac soldiers during the new Military Muster programs at the historic fort this spring. Mackinac State Historic Parks (MSHP) offered these three-hour evening programs for fourth-through eighth-graders.

A typical program began with students assembling (mustering) in

Marquette Park and marching up the hill to Fort Mackinac. Once inside, MSHP historical interpreters treated students to a history lesson that included marching, drilling on the parade ground and walking a sentry beat.

Students had the opportunity to compare another aspect of soldier life at Fort Mackinac with their own when they sat for a lesson in the old fort schoolhouse. The enlisted men studied arithmetic, geography and handwriting; the students worked from texts similar to the ones the soldiers used.

"This is hands-on history," states MSHP museum educator Katie

Cederholm. "For many students, this real experience makes an impact they can't get from reading and listening alone. They walk the same ground the 19th-century soldiers walked. That makes it memorable."

